GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1549
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
INCREASE IN HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECTS
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken initiative to increase the share of hydropower from present level of 24.9% to 40% by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan in total power generation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether delay in clearance of hydro projects by the Government has adversely affected the increase of share of hydropower in total power generation in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and reason of delay of clearance; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) & (b) : Realizing the need to improve share of hydro in the system, it has proposed to add 14,393 MW of hydro power in the 10th Plan, which constitutes about 35% of the planned capacity addition during this Plan. With the realization of the proposed capacity addition, the share of hydro in the system is likely to improve to about 27.8% by the end of the 10th Plan.

(c) & (d) : The time taken for accord of Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) to Hydroprojects depend upon completeness of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) by the projectdeveloper and tying up of all essential inputs/clearances required. The constraints affecting hydro development are:

- Inadequate survey and investigation.
- Lack of infrastructure
- Geological surprises.
- Resettlement & Rehabilitation problems.
- Inter-State aspects.
- Environment and forest clearance problems.
- Law and order problems.
- Land acquisition problems.

In order to expedite the techno-economic appraisal and clearance of hydro projects, guidelines were prepared by CEA in December, 2002 for formulation of project report. According to the time bound procedure, CEA will complete the examination ofDPR within 3 months.

According to Environment Impact Assessment Notification, assessment ofa proposal is to be completed by the Ministry of Environment & Forests within 90 days of receipt of complete information and decision is communicated within 30 days thereafter.

(e) : Government have streamlined the procedure of according clearances within the agencies of Government of India and have also set up a crisis Resolution Group for resolution of last mile problems for IPPs.Three-stage clearance for hydro- electric projects under Central Sector has also been introduced in order to allowdevelopment of roads and infrastructure in parallel while statutory clearances are being obtained.